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Rajat Patidar

Shreyas Iyer

IPL 2025 FINAL: UPBEAT RCB FACE PUNJAB MIGHT TODAY

Fresh from its incredible win against Mumbai, Shreyas Iyer set to lead the team against resurgent Royal Challengers in Ahmedabad

TROPHY HUNTING IN 18TH EDITION FOR NO 18

It has been the narrative from the beginning of the season. Will RCB finally win an IPL title? They had a new captain in Rajat Patidar, built a strong squad around Virat Kohli (No 18) and have dominated the season like never before. The bowling attack has played a crucial part as well. Come Tuesday, expect a massive support for Kohli and Co

'SARPANCH' SHREYAS COMES TO THE FORE

The Punjab skipper is the title-defending captain but with a different franchise. He led Kolkata Knight Riders to the title last year, but was not retained. He came into the auction with a statement to make. He has led from the front, inspired a bunch of uncapped Indian players to rise to the occasion. Can he go all the way against Bengaluru team? **P17**

2022

LAST TIME A TEAM (GUJARAT TITANS) WON THEIR FIRST IPL TITLE

CHENNAI ▪ MADURAI ▪ VIJAYAWADA ▪ BENGALURU ▪ KOCHI ▪ HYDERABAD ▪ VISAKHAPATNAM ▪ COIMBATORE ▪ KOZHIKODE ▪ THIRUVANANTHAPURAM ▪ BELAGAVI ▪ BHUBANESWAR ▪ SHIVAMOGGA ▪ MANGALURU ▪ TIRUPATI ▪ TIRUCHY ▪ TIRUNELVELI ▪ SAMBALPUR ▪ HUBBALLI ▪ DHARMAPURI ▪ KOTTAYAM ▪ KANNUR ▪ VILLUPURAM ▪ KOLLAM ▪ TADEPALLIGUDEM ▪ NAGAPATTINAM ▪ THRISSUR ▪ KALABURAGI

Tesla won't make in India, says HDK

Only wants showrooms; Merc, Skoda, VW, Hyundai, Kia interested in manufacturing EVs

DIPAK MONDAL @ New Delhi

ELON Musk-promoted Tesla is not interested in manufacturing electric vehicles in India, Union heavy industries minister H D Kumaraswamy said here on Monday, adding that the US firm seems interested only in opening showrooms in India. However, other global players including Mercedes, Volkswagen, Skoda, Hyundai and Kia have shown interest in setting up manufacturing facilities in India, he added.

The minister's comments came while announcing the guidelines for the Scheme for Promotion of Manufacturing of Electric Passenger Cars in India (SMEC). He, however, added that the real intention of companies will be known only when the application window for the scheme opens.

SMEC—meant for attracting investment from global EV manufacturers—will allow companies to import completely built units of EVs priced below $35,000 at 15% import duty against the currently applicable rate of 70% for green cars.

Government officials said Tesla, which had initially shown interest in setting up manufacturing units in India, attended only the first stakeholders' consultation meeting to discuss the details of the scheme. They skipped subsequent meetings.

US president Donald Trump, who is against American firms setting up factories abroad, has very close links with Musk. When asked about Musk's plans to manufacture in India, Trump had said it would be "very unfair".

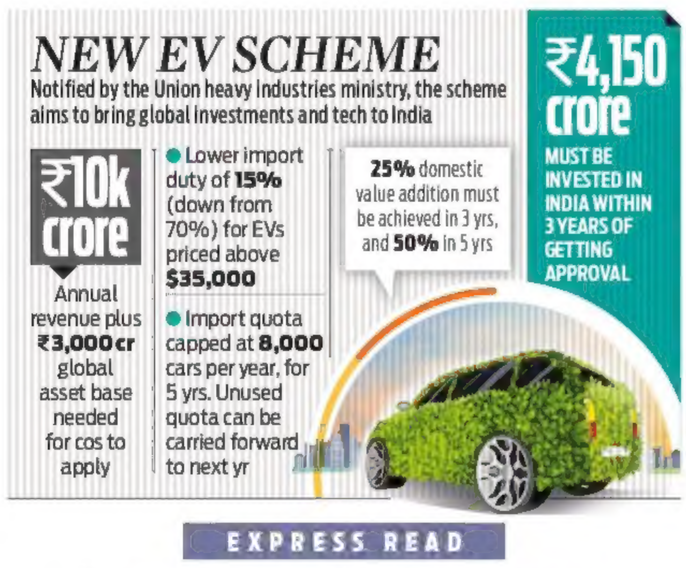
Meanwhile, India and the US are negotiating a trade deal under which India is expected to lower the import duty on American cars, which at present is in the range of 70-100%.

Under the recently concluded India-UK trade deal, India has agreed to reduce the tariff on cars to 10% in 10 years. However, small EVs have been kept out of the purview of the deal.

The application widow under SMEC will open next week, and won't shut for 120 days. However, the Centre can reopen the window as and when required till March 15, 2026.

On the likely chances of BYD applying under the scheme, officials said the Chinese EV maker is very keen but the Indian government has no plans to grant permission.

The government estimates a revenue loss of ₹6,484 crore per applicant under the scheme.


NEW EV SCHEME
Notified by the Union heavy industries ministry, the scheme aims to bring global investments and tech to India
₹10k crore
Annual revenue plus ₹3,000cr global asset base needed for cos to apply
Lower import duty of 15% (down from 70%) for EVs priced above $35,000
Import quota capped at 8,000 cars per year, for 5 yrs. Unused quota can be carried forward to next yr
25% domestic value addition must be achieved in 3 yrs, and 50% in 5 yrs
₹4,150 crore
MUST BE INVESTED IN INDIA WITHIN 3 YEARS OF GETTING APPROVAL

Sikkim landslide kills 3 jawans, 6 others missing

The site of the landslide (above) that hit a military camp at Chaten in Sikkim; and rescue operations (left) in progress | PTI

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE @ Guwahati

A landslide struck an Army camp at Chaten in Sikkim's Lachen district, killing three personnel. Four individuals were rescued while six other personnel were reported missing, a defence ministry statement said. The incident occurred on Sunday evening. The deceased were identified as Havaldar Lakhwinder Singh, Lance Naik Munish Thakur and porter Abhishek Lakhada. All three bodies were recovered.

"Rescue teams are relentlessly working around the clock under extremely challenging terrain and adverse weather conditions to locate and rescue the six personnel who remain missing," the statement stated.

"The Indian Army remains steadfast in its commitment to ensure the safety and well-being of all its personnel, demonstrating its unyielding spirit and dedication to duty even in the face of nature's fury," the statement added.

With rainfall in recent days exceeding 130 mm, roads to key tourist destinations, including Lachen, Lachung, the Valley of Flowers and Zero Point, suffered major damages. As emergency work is underway following a sudden increase in river Teesta's water level, the National Highways & Infrastructure Development Corporation Ltd restricted vehicular movement along National Highway 10. **P12**

THOUSANDS OF TOURISTS EVACUATED

Most of the over 18,000 tourists stranded in Sikkim's Lachung and Chungthang towns following landslides were evacuated on Monday. Over 100 others are still stuck in Lachen

Both India, Pak delegations in US this week

JAYANTH JACOB @ New Delhi

AS diplomatic efforts intensify, delegations from India and Pakistan are arriving in the US this week, seeking to shape political opinion among American lawmakers and officials.

Congress MP Shashi Tharoor is leading an Indian team back to Washington on June 3. Meanwhile, a Pakistani delegation, headed by former foreign minister Bilawal Bhutto-Zardari, begins its US leg in New York and Washington this week.

Pakistan's delegation includes figures such as former foreign minister Hina Rabbani Khar, ex-information minister Sherry Rehman, former defence minister Khurram Dastgir Khan, and former foreign secretary Jalil Abbas Jilani. **P12**

KFCC call for ban: *Thug Life* maker moves K'taka HC

YATHIRAJU @ Bengaluru

THE co-producer of Kamal Haasan-starrer *Thug Life* knocked on the doors of the Karnataka High Court over the proclaimed ban on the release and distribution of the movie by the Karnataka Film Chamber of Commerce (KFCC) in the state over a controversial statement made by the actor that 'Kannada was born out of Tamil'.

In the petition filed before the Karnataka High Court, the Chennai-based Raajkamal Films International (RKFI), represented by its CEO V Narayanan, stated that the KFCC statement to the media about stopping the release and distribution of the movie heeding to the demands of Kannada organisations infringes the fundamental right to free speech and expression as the certification under the Cinematograph Act from the Central Board of Film Certification was obtained in May.

RKFI stated it is also aggrieved by unlawful protests and burning of Kamal's effigies, which the Benglauru police commissioner and state police chief have failed to restrain.

Elaborating that it has spent over Rs 300 crore on the movie, RKFI stated that the movie is slated to be released worldwide on June 5.

It contended that during the audio launch of *Thug Life* in Chennai, Kamal's statement that "Kannada was born out of Tamil" was taken out of context, as he also expressed camaraderie and love he shares with the Kannada film fraternity and particularly actor Shivaraj Kumar, who was present in the audio launch.

Even if the statement is wrong, no credence should be attached to it as Kamal is not a historian. The statement only sought to express cultural solidarity and affection between the people of Karnataka and Tamil Nadu. **P7**

EXPRESS READ

Kohli's pub booked for COTPA violations

Bengaluru: The Bengaluru police have registered an FIR against One8 Commune, a pub and restaurant co-owned by cricketer Virat Kohli in Bengaluru for not having a designated smoking zone | **P3**

DK police book case against Kalladka

Mangaluru: The Dakshina Kannada police on Monday booked a case against RSS leader Kalladka Prabhakar Bhat and issued an externment notice against BJP leader Arun Kumar Puthila | **P4**

Maha objects to increasing Almatti dam height

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE @ Bengaluru

DEPUTY Chief Minister DK Shivakumar, who also holds the Water Resources portfolio, said on Monday that Maharashtra has objected to the state's move to increase the height of Almatti dam in Vijayapura district from 519.6 to 524 metres.

He said the state government is planning to take up the matter with Prime Minister Narendra Modi. The Union ministers and MPs from Karnataka should safeguard the state's interests.

Terming Maharashtra's stand "shocking", Shivakumar said the neighbouring state, which never objected to Karnataka's decision in the past, has now suddenly expressed its concern that increasing the dam's height could lead to floods in Sangli and Kolhapur districts.

"Flooding in Maharashtra is its internal matter and that state should fix it. We will meet the PM and the Union Jal Shakthi minister and prevail upon them to go ahead with our project," he said.

Shivakumar said Karnataka has been waiting for a gazette notification on increasing the Almatti height since 2013 and there is no scientific basis for Maharashtra CM's letter opposing it. **P7**

It is shocking. Maharashtra had never objected to K'taka's move. It did not raise objection when the tribunal passed its judgment in 2010

DK Shivakumar, DCM

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